Eradication of communicable diseases

671. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the communicable diseases prevalent in the country,

(b) the steps taken to control/eradicate these diseases;

(c) whether any of these diseases is preventable by vaccination;

(d) if so, the details thereof with the names of vaccines, and

(e) the steps taken to vaccinate people against these diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Certain communicable diseases like Cholera, acute Diarrhoeal diseases, viral Hepatitis, enteric fever, Meningococcal Meningitis, Acute respiratory infection, Whooping Cough, Diptheria, Measles, Japanese encephalitis, Leprosy, tuberculosis and dengue are prevalent in India.

(b) Steps taken to control/eradicate these diseases are as under: -

(i) Implementation of National Progrmmes to control Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Malaria & other Vector Borne Diseases, reproductive & Child Health, including vaccination programme.

(ii) Outbreak investigation and control and provision of timely response, when required.

(iii) Development of trained manpower.

(iv) Public awareness on prevention and control measures.

(v) Launch of the Integrated Disease Surveillance Project.

(c) and (d) Some of the diseases like hepatitis B, TB, Meningococcal Meningitis, Measles, Diptheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyletis etc. are preventable by vaccination. Names of these vaccines are as under:-

TB	BCG Vaccine
Hepatitis B	Plasma derived vaccine, Recombinant
Hepatitis B Vaccine	
Meningitis	Bivalent Meningococcal Vaccine Quadrivalent Meningococcal Vaccine Homophilus influence b Vaccine

TB		BCG Vaccine
Measles	Pertusis, Tetanus	Live Attenuated Vaccine
Diptheria,		Trivalent Vaccine (DPT)
Polio		Live Attenuated Vaccine

(e) National Immunisation Programme to carry out vaccination against Diseases like Tuberculosis, polio, Diptheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and measles etc. is already in operation.

Prices of AIDS medicines

672. SHRIVIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether four Indian pharmaceutical companies have agreed to slash the prices of aids drugs and tests;

(b) if so, whether Government would evolve suitable modalities to ensure that the benefit of reduction in prices actually go to the consumers; and

(c) whether Government are launching any national scheme whereby AIDS drugs will be distributed free in areas where the vulnerability of this desease is comparatively more, like North East State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No. We are not aware of any such lowering of prices by the pharmaceutical companies.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Govt, of India has launched the ART programme in the country from the year 2004 where ARV drugs are provided free to eligible patients. At present there are 52 ART centers supported by Government of India and providing free Antiretroviral treatment to 23, 784 patients. Out of these North-Eastern States have five ART centrers providing free treatment to 1614 patients.

Survey for ascertaining cancer among children

† 673. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.